

MA/ME

8 April 1955

Acting Chief, D/S

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Comments on Proposed Office Notice Concerning [REDACTED]

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1. The proposed Office Notice, as now drafted, is subject to such a restrictive interpretation as to render it virtually impossible to discuss substantive intelligence matters with [REDACTED]. It is recognized, of course, that this is not the intent of the notice, and such a misinterpretation could probably be avoided by a few minor changes in the wording of the notice.

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2. With reference to Item 1a, it is suggested that the notice make it clear, if such is the case, that it is permissible to disclose the general type of source (e.g., PW or refugee interrogation, press or radio announcement, special materials, trip report, etc.) of intelligence information discussed with FLO's, provided that there is no specific identification of individual persons or methods by name or description. Moreover, since a very large part of our classified intelligence information originates in one form or another with other US agencies, a strict application of Item 1b would so limit substantive contacts with FLO's that such discussions would be of little or no value to either party. This section of the notice should be clarified to indicate whether the restriction applies to actual intelligence information originated by other US agencies in any form or only to the attribution of such information to a specific agency or a specific document of another agency. In other words, is it permissible to discuss the information contained in the dispatches, cables, bulletins, reports and studies of other agencies, provided that neither the document nor the agency from which the information was received is identified?

3. Execution of the policies set forth according to any other interpretation would probably result in a sharp reduction in the volume and quality of information now being furnished this Division by the [REDACTED]

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